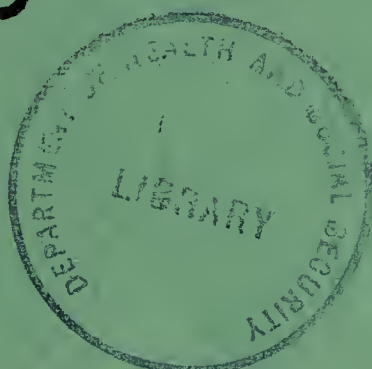


STAFFORD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
and the
Chief Public Health Inspector
FOR THE YEAR 1969

JUNE, 1970

ANNUAL REPORT

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Newport Road,
Stafford.
Tel. Stafford 52131.

**To the Chairman and Members of
the Stafford Rural District Council:**

June, 1970.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting to you the Annual Report for the year 1969. The Report has been compiled on the general lines indicated by the Department of Health and Social Security (Circular 1/70).

Under the Secretary of State for Social Services Order, 1968, which came into operation on 1st November, 1968, the Ministry of Health was dissolved and all its functions, along with those of the Ministry of Social Security, were transferred to the new Department of Health and Social Security. The new department is headed by the Secretary of State for Social Services, who, in addition to his responsibility for the new combined department, will continue to co-ordinate the whole range of Social Services. Under the Secretary of State there are two Ministers of State, one of whom will have responsibilities in the field previously covered by the Minister of Health. The other will have responsibilities in the field previously covered by the Minister of Social Security.

In the Stafford Rural District in 1969 the Live Birth Rate was 17.8 (adjusted—18.5) per 1,000 population and the Death Rate 7.7 (adjusted 10.2), compared with respective figures of 16.3 and 11.9 for England and Wales. There were 413 live births in the Rural District in 1969 (223 M., 190 F.) and the total number of deaths was 179, live births thus exceeding total deaths by 234. Deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 8, giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 19.4 per 1,000 live births compared with 18.1 for England and Wales.

30 cases of Measles were notified in the Rural District in 1969, compared with 9 in 1968. There were 2 cases of Scarlet Fever, no cases of Whooping Cough and no cases of Dysentery, compared with respective figures of 4, 3 and 5 for 1968. No cases of Poliomyelitis were recorded. No cases of Diphtheria were notified. Malignant

Neoplasms caused the deaths of 34 persons (23 M., 11F.) in the district during the year, including 6 deaths (5 M., 1 F.) registered as being due to Carcinoma of the Lung and Bronchus. Deaths from Carcinoma of the Lung and Bronchus in England and Wales rose from 1,011 to 1,039 per million population in men and from 197 to 202 per million population in women over the 1968 figures (total deaths from this cause, 24,689 males, 5,074 females). Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis in England and Wales in 1969 numbered 1,092 compared with 1,458 in 1968. One male death from Respiratory Tuberculosis occurred in the Stafford R.D. in 1969.

The mid-1969 population of the Stafford Rural District was estimated at 23,220 by the Registrar-General (22,370 in mid-1968). This was the highest population ever estimated for the district. The estimated distribution of this population among the 26 parishes of the Rural District is shown in the body of the report.

Health statistics in the Stafford Rural District in 1969 were satisfactory.

In the body of the report the Chief Public Health Inspector deals comprehensively with the work of the Public Health Inspectorate during 1969.

There are 7,632 dwellings in the Rural District.

Nineteen dwellings were completed by the Council in 1969, and 296 dwellings were erected by private enterprise. During the year much good work was done as regards slum clearance and repair and improvement of dwellings by discretionary and standard grants; details of this work appear in the body of the report. A total of 126 caravans are authorised in the district.

I thank the staff of the Public Health Department for much help in the preparation of this report. Thanks are also expressed to the members of the Council for their help and interest in the work of the Department. During the year the other departments of the Council have given the fullest co-operation. I have to thank Dr. A. V. Campbell, who has acted for me during holiday periods.

A. THOMSON,
(Medical Officer of Health).

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1969

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR R. J. FAIRBANKS

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR MISS G. JOULES, C.C.

Members:

Councillor T. W. Brayne

Councillor G. H. Dodd

„ V. R. Brown

„ C. C. Holme

„ R. H. Cartmail

„ C. L. Jones

„ W. H. Clarke

„ A. T. Lea

„ E. R. Cope

„ S. W. K. Marshall

„ H. Coulson

„ C. S. Whiteley

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health:

A. THOMSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Edin.)

Chief Public Health Inspector:

G. M. LAWTON, F.R.S.H., M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.

Cert. Food Inspector

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

W. E. JEVONS, M.A.P.H.I.

Cert. Food Inspector

Additional Public Health Inspector:

P. B. TAYLOR, M.A.P.H.I.

Cert. Food Inspector

Clerk:

MISS G. M. EDWARDS

General Statistics, Social Conditions and Health Services in the Area

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	80,104
Number of inhabited houses	..	..	..	..	..	7,632
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	£803,370
Sum represented by Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	..	£3,488
Yearly Rate levied in 1969	..	..	..	..	..	12/4
Mid-1969 Population (as estimated by the Registrar-General): Total Population	..	..	..	..	..	23,220

During 1969 there was no change in the area of Stafford Rural District.

Industries

Many residents in the Area are normally mainly engaged in Agriculture, Dairy Farming and allied occupations, but a substantial number of persons resident in the Rural Area are employed in the County Town of Stafford, where the chief industries are Engineering and Boot and Shoe Manufacturing.

Laboratory Facilities, Ambulance Facilities, Nursing in the Home, Treatment Centres and Hospitals

Bacteriological facilities are made available to Medical Practitioners in the Area by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Stafford. The facilities include examination of Throat Swabs, Sputum Tests, Blood Tests, etc. Results of all examinations relevant to Public Health are made available to the appropriate Medical Officer of Health. The Director of the Stafford Laboratory was Dr.P. Cavanagh, M.A., M.D., B.A.O., Dip. Bact., whose helpful advice was available to the Medical Officer of Health when occasion demanded. Bacteriological examinations of samples of water are undertaken by the Laboratory Service.

Chemical examinations of samples of water are carried out at the County Chemical Laboratory which is directed by Mr. R. S. Hatfull, M.Chem.A., F.R.I.C., F.R.S.H., the County Analyst.

Ambulance Services are provided by the County Council as Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act, 1946. Isolation hospitals for infectious diseases are the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board (Birmingham).

The County Council is the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority for the Stafford R.D. Area. Child Health Centres are available at Gnosall, Great Haywood, Hixon and Walton, and the

Health Visitors do excellent work in promoting the welfare of young children in the district. Your Medical Officer of Health attends the Welfare Centres and Schools in the Area and is thus enabled to assess the health standards of the young life in the district.

There are five General Medical Practitioners resident in the Stafford R.D. and Practitioners from the neighbouring towns of Stafford, Rugeley, Newport, etc., also practise in the Area. The various parishes in the Stafford R.D. are well served by District Nurse/Midwives. Four Health Visitors work in the R.D.

The Staffordshire General Infirmary serves the general hospital needs of the district. The Birmingham Regional Hospital Board is responsible for the provision of Maternity Hospital facilities.

During the year the Council subscribed to the Health Education Council which represented the Department of Health and Social Security in Health Education matters and use was made of Health Education leaflets, etc., relating to Infectious Diseases, Food Hygiene and so on.

Vital Statistics for the Year 1969

Total Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	179
Rate per 1,000 Population	..	..	..	..	..	..	7.7
Live Births:							
Number	..	..	..	..	..	..	413
Rate per 1,000 Population	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.8
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births	..						6.5
Still Births:							
Number	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births	..	..					9.6
Total Live and Still Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	417
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Infant Mortality Rates:							
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total Live Births	..						19.4
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	18.1
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	37.0
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total Live Births)	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.1
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total Live Births)	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.1

Peri-Natal Mortality Rate (Still Births and Deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total Live and Still Births ..	21.6
Maternal Mortality (including abortion):	
Number of Deaths	—
Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births	—

In the Stafford Rural District in 1969 the Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population was 17.8 compared with a rate of 16.3 for England and Wales. Comparability Factor 1.04 (adjusted Birth Rate 18.5). The ratio of local adjusted birth rate to national rate was 1.14.

						Stafford R.D. Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population
Year						
1969	..	..	..	..	..	17.8
1968	..	..	..	..	..	19.2
1967	..	..	..	..	..	18.2
1966	..	..	..	..	..	18.4
1965	..	..	..	..	..	17.7
1964	..	..	..	..	..	18.9
1963	..	..	..	..	..	19.5
1962	..	..	..	..	..	20.0
1961	..	..	..	..	..	18.0
1960	..	..	..	..	..	17.6
1959	..	..	..	..	..	16.1
1958	..	..	..	..	..	14.9
1957	..	..	..	..	..	16.0
1956	..	..	..	..	..	15.0
1955	..	..	..	..	..	15.3

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Population was 0.17 in 1969, compared with 0.36, 0.23, 0.43, 0.2 in 1968, 1967, 1966 and 1965 respectively.

In the Stafford R.D. in 1969, illegitimate Live Births constituted 7% of all Live Births, compared with a figure of 8% for England and Wales.

During 1969, the Rate of Illegitimate to Legitimate Births was 1 to 14 compared with figures of 1 to 14, 1 to 15, 1 to 28, 1 to 21, 1 to 17 in 1968, 1967, 1966, 1965 and 1964 respectively.

There were 413 (429) Live Births in the Rural Area in 1969, 223 (216) boys and 190 (213) girls. The figures in brackets are the corresponding figures for 1968. 27 of the Live Births in 1969 were illegitimate, giving an Illegitimacy Rate of 65 per 1,000 Live Births.

67,042 of the total Live Births of 797,542 in England and Wales in 1969 were illegitimate.

The area comparability factors for use with crude birth and death rates contain adjustments for boundary changes and make allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales as a whole. In addition, the death rate area comparability factors have been adjusted specifically to take account of the presence of any residential institutions in each area. When local crude birth and death rates are multiplied by the appropriate area comparability factor, they are comparable with the crude rate for England and Wales or with the corresponding adjusted rate for any other area.

In the following table Comparative figures of Live and Still Births are shown for England and Wales:—

Year	Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population		Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	
	Stafford R.D.	England and Wales	Stafford R.D.	England and Wales
1969	17.8	16.3	0.17	0.22
1968	19.2	16.9	0.36	0.25
1967	18.2	17.2	0.23	0.26
1966	18.4	17.7	0.43	0.28
1965	17.7	18.0	0.20	0.29
1964	18.9	18.4	0.40	0.30
1963	19.5	18.1	0.15	0.32
1962	20.0	17.9	0.26	0.33
1961	18.0	17.5	0.59	0.33
1960	17.6	17.1	0.27	0.34
1959	16.1	16.4	0.32	0.35
1958	14.9	16.4	0.32	0.36
1957	16.0	16.1	0.47	0.37
1956	15.0	15.6	0.41	0.36
1955	15.3	15.0	0.36	0.35

In 1968 in England and Wales 80.6 % of all births took place in Institutions (78.6 % in N.H.S. Hospitals). The Institutional confinement rate was 64.3 % (N.H.S. Hospitals 60.2 %) in 1955.

There were 4 Still Births in the Rural Area (3 M., 1 F.) in 1969, all being legitimate. This represented a rate of 9.6 per 1,000 total Live and Still Births compared with a rate of 13.2 for England and Wales.

Deaths

In 1969 the Death Rate per 1,000 of the population was 7.7 compared with a rate of 11.9 for England and Wales. Comparability Factor, 1.33 (Stafford R.D. adjusted Death Rate 10.2). The ratio of the local adjusted death rate to the national rate was 0.86.

Year	Death Rate per 1,000 Population			
	Stafford R.D.		England & Wales	
1969	7.7	.. 11.9
1968	7.4	.. 11.9
1967	6.3	.. 11.2
1966	9.0	.. 11.7
1965	7.7	.. 11.5
1964	8.9	.. 11.3
1963	8.8	.. 12.2
1962	9.4	.. 11.9
1961	8.7	.. 11.9
1960	7.2	.. 11.5
1959	7.5	.. 11.6
1958	7.9	.. 11.7

In the Stafford Rural District in 1969, total deaths numbered 179, 106 males and 73 females. The excess of live births over total deaths was 234, compared with 263, 254, 194, 202, 199, 210, 201, 173 in 1968, 1967, 1966, 1965, 1964, 1963, 1962 and 1961 respectively.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age numbered 8 (4 M., 4 F.), 7 legitimate, giving a Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births of 19.4 compared with 18.1 for England and Wales.

At the turn of the century in England and Wales the Infant Mortality Rate was about 150 per 1,000 live births.

Infant Mortality Rate

Year	Death Rate of Children under 1 year of age per 1,000 Live Births			
	Stafford R.D.		England & Wales	
1969	19.4	.. 18.1
1968	7.0	.. 18.0
1967	2.6	.. 18.3
1966	15.8	.. 19.0
1965	14.0	.. 19.0
1964	29.2	.. 19.9
1963	18.3	.. 21.1
1962	26.3	.. 21.7
1961	29.6	.. 21.4
1960	27.3	.. 21.8
1959	16.4	.. 22.2
1958	14.1	.. 22.5

In England and Wales in 1969 live births registered during the year numbered 797,542, which was 24,458 fewer than in 1968. There were 14,397 deaths of children under one year of age in 1969, representing a rate of 18.1 per 1,000 live births. In 1938 the rate was 52.8.

The total number of deaths in 1969 was 579,463, representing a rate of 11.9 per 1,000 population, compared with rates of 11.9 in 1968 and 11.2 in 1967. Still births in 1969 numbered 10,662, a rate of 13.2 per 1,000 total live and still births. In the five years 1889-1893 in England and Wales the Live Birth Rate was 30.8 per 1,000 of the population and the Death Rate was 19.7. The home population of England and Wales at mid-1969 was 48,826,800.

For ages up to the early forties the number of males in the home population exceeds the number of females, but at higher ages females increasingly outnumber males.

STAFFORD R.D. — AGES AT DEATH, 1969												
Sex	Total all Ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks and under 1 Year	Age in Years								
				1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over
Male	106	2	2	1	2	1	3	5	8	19	35	28
Female	73	3	1	1	2	—	1	—	2	7	18	38
Totals Per cent	179 100%	5 2.8	3 1.7	2 1.1	4 2.2	1 0.6	4 2.2	5 2.8	10 5.6	26 14.5	53 29.6	66 36.9

The proportion of children and elderly people in the population has become significantly modified since 1901. In that year children under 15 amounted to 32% of the total and persons of 65 years and over to 5%. In 1969 the proportions were respectively 23.5% and 12.8%.

On the basis of the death rates for the year 1968, the expectation of life of a boy at birth is given as 68.1 years and that of a girl as 74.1 years. This compares with 67 and 72 in 1953, 48.53 and 52.38 in 1901-1910, and with 40 years and 42 years in 1841.

This does not imply that on the average people are living longer. The expectation of life at one year of age has remained practically stationary at 69 years for men and 74 years for women since 1954. More persons are reaching three-score years and ten but the proportion living much longer has not increased. In 1841 the increase in expectation of life after the first year was 7 years. In 1961 this had been reduced to one year, the difference being due entirely to the great reduction of infant mortality occurring in the interval.

By the end of the present century it is estimated that the population of England and Wales will have increased by 18 millions and the number of births will have risen to over one million per year.

England and Wales
Estimated Home Population, by Sex and Age, at 30th June, 1969
(Figures in Thousands)

Age	Males	Females	Persons
All ages ..	23,752.0	25,074.8	48,826.8
0-4 ..	2,105.8	2,002.4	4,108.2
5-9 ..	2,037.2	1,934.7	3,971.9
10-14 ..	1,752.9	1,663.0	3,415.9
15-19 ..	1,701.8	1,652.1	3,353.9
20-24 ..	1,892.0	1,868.6	3,760.6
25-29 ..	1,566.6	1,532.8	3,099.4
30-34 ..	1,513.2	1,443.1	2,956.3
35-39 ..	1,496.1	1,424.5	2,920.6
40-44 ..	1,518.6	1,492.0	3,010.6
45-49 ..	1,667.4	1,680.8	3,348.2
50-54 ..	1,360.4	1,425.3	2,785.7
55-59 ..	1,457.2	1,587.5	3,044.7
60-64 ..	1,305.4	1,492.4	2,797.8
65-69 ..	1,023.0	1,301.2	2,324.2
70-74 ..	642.4	1,050.2	1,692.6
75-79 ..	402.1	765.7	1,167.8
80-84 ..	208.0	475.3	683.3
85 and over ..	101.9	283.2	385.1

Stafford Rural District Deaths, 1969: Causes

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Totals
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	1	—	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases..	1	2	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc.	2	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus ..	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ..	3	1	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine ..	6	2	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus..	5	1	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate ..	2	—	2
Leukaemia	2	—	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	4	6
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms ..	1	—	1
Diabetes Mellitus	1	1	2
Other Endocrine, etc., Diseases ..	—	1	1

Stafford Rural District Deaths, 1968: Causes—continued.

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Totals
Anaemias	1	—	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	3	1	4
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease ..	1	2	3
Hypertensive Disease	—	1	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	33	15	48
Other forms of Heart Disease	8	3	11
Cerebrovascular Disease	9	14	23
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ..	6	2	8
Influenza	1	1	2
Pneumonia	1	2	3
Bronchitis and Emphysema	5	2	7
Peptic Ulcer	1	1	2
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia ..	2	—	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System ..	—	2	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	—	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	—	2	2
Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue ..	—	1	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System ..	—	2	2
Congenital Anomalies	1	—	1
Birth Injuries, Difficult Labour, etc. ..	1	—	1
Other causes of Perinatal Mortality ..	—	3	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	3	6
All other Accidents	2	1	3
TOTAL – ALL CAUSES ..	106	73	179

In the Stafford Rural District in 1969, 8 (4.5%) of the total deaths (179) were under one year of age, 53 (29.6%) aged 65–74 years and 66 (36.9%) aged 75 and over.

Cancer Mortality

Malignant neoplasms caused 34 deaths in the rural area in 1969 (23 males, 11 females). This represented 19.0 per cent of the total deaths.

Cancer of the Lung and Bronchus

In the Stafford Rural District in 1969, there were six deaths registered as being due to Carcinoma of the Lung or Bronchus – 5 male, 1 female. This represented 17.6 per cent of the total cancer deaths and 3.4 per cent of the total deaths.

“Any reduction in cigarette smoking is a gain to health – immediately in respiratory function, in the short run in a reduction of illness and in the longer term in reduced risk of premature death from Chronic Bronchitis, Coronary Thrombosis and Lung Cancer.”

Provisional figures for 1969 for England and Wales relating to deaths from Carcinoma of the Lung and Bronchus show an increase from 1,011 to 1,039 per million population in men and from 197 to 202 for women, over the 1968 figures. 29,763 (24,689 M., 5,074 F.) persons died from this cause in 1969.

In the year 1900 the male death rate from Cancer of the Lung and Bronchus was 10 per million, female 7 per million. In 1940 these rates were 187 and 49, and 1958, 783 and 119.

Of the 114,727 deaths from all forms of Cancer in 1969, the proportion attributed to Cancer of the Lung was 25.9%. In 1968 and 1967 it was 25.6% and 25.7% respectively.

Cancer (all forms) accounted for 19.8% of the total deaths and Cancer of the Lung and Bronchus accounted for 5.1% of the total deaths in England and Wales in 1969. In the Stafford R.D. in 1969 Cancer of the Lung and Bronchus accounted for 3.4% of the total deaths, and Cancer all forms 19.0%.

Male deaths from Cancer in England and Wales in 1969 totalled 61,984, of which 24,689 or 39.8% were certified as due to Cancer of the Lung and Bronchus. For women, out of 52,743 deaths from Cancer, 5,074 or 9.6% were due to this cause.

Cancer Deaths, Stafford R.D., 1969

CANCER SITES

	Brain	Breast	Bowels	Gall Bladder	Larynx	Lung and Bronchus	Oesophagus	Ovary	Pancreas	Prostate	Stomach	Testicle	Uterus	Other	Totals
Male	-	-	6	-	-	5	1	-	-	2	3	-	-	6	23
Female	-	2	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	11
Totals	-	2	8	-	-	6	2	-	-	2	4	-	-	10	34

Names of Parishes in Stafford Rural District showing number of houses (including farm houses), approximate population figures and Incidence of Infectious Diseases in each Parish in 1969

Name of Parish	Approximate Population	Number of Houses	Infectious Diseases Notified 1969										
			Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles (excl. Rubella)	Whooping Cough	Tetanus	Dysentery	Typhoid	Para-Typhoid	Infective Jaundice	Poliomyelitis	Respiratory Tuberculosis
Adbaston	629	207	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Berkswich	1,968	653	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Bradley	429	144	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brocton	1,053	344	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Castle Church ..	910	295	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Church Eaton ..	570	220	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colwich	3,367	1,098	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Creswell	1,229	396	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ellenhall	136	47	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forton	298	98	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fradswell	166	55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gayton	150	63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gnosall	3,193	1,098	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Haughton	873	294	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
High Offley	926	298	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hopton & Coton ..	1,542	366	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Ingestre	119	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marston	225	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Norbury	265	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ranton	262	82	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salt & Enson	435	151	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Seighford	2,322	832	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stowe	1,171	386	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tixall	198	58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Weston	610	207	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whitgreave	174	54	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	23220	7,632	2	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1

No cases of Diphtheria or Poliomyelitis occurred in the Stafford Rural District in 1969.

Infective Jaundice became notifiable during 1968, as also did Acute Meningitis, Leptospirosis and Tetanus. Erysipelas, Acute Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia and Puerperal Pyrexia are now not notifiable.

Notifiable Diseases

The Incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases in 1969 compared with that of previous years is shown below in tabular form:—

<i>Disease</i>	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958
Scarlet Fever ..	2	4	4	8	3	1	1	5	4	5	16	23
Whooping Cough ..	—	3	2	—	6	6	8	—	27	16	2	3
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Measles (excluding Rubella) ..	30	9	81	83	154	50	335	24	204	97	110	53
Dysentery ..	—	5	—	10	4	—	1	9	1	21	1	2
Typhoid Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Para-Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Jaundice ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Also notified in 1969:

- 10 cases of Food Poisoning (8 Hopton and Coton, 2 Berkswich)
- 1 case other Tuberculosis
- 1 case Respiratory Tuberculosis
- 1 case Post-Infectious Encephalitis

Statistics — Stafford Rural District

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Population ..	23,220	22,370	21,380	20,700	20,170	19,990	19,580	19,030	18,750	18,800	18,850	19,040	19,350	19,340	19,510	19,460	19,790	19,430	19,700
No. of Inhabited Houses ..	7,632	7,330	6,911	6,690	6,360	6,122	5,974	5,771	5,650	5,383	5,303	5,025	4,940	4,914	4,836	4,742	4,650	4,446	4,361
No. of Live Births ..	413	429	389	380	358	377	382	380	337	330	304	284	310	290	299	304	284	283	300
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population ..	17.8	19.2	18.2	18.4	17.7	18.9	19.5	20.0	18.0	17.6	16.1	14.9	16.0	15.0	15.3	15.6	14.4	14.6	15.2
Live Birth Rate England and Wales ..	16.3	16.9	17.2	17.7	18.1	18.4	18.1	17.9	17.5	17.1	16.4	16.4	16.1	15.6	15.0	15.2	15.5	15.3	15.5
No. of Deaths..	179	166	135	186	156	178	172	179	164	135	142	150	149	173	163	152	137	170	184
Death Rate per 1,000 population ..	7.7	7.4	6.3	9.0	7.7	8.9	8.8	9.4	8.7	7.2	7.5	7.9	7.7	8.9	8.4	7.8	6.9	8.7	9.3
Death Rate—England and Wales ..	11.9	11.9	11.2	11.7	11.5	11.3	12.2	11.9	11.9	11.5	11.6	11.7	11.5	11.7	11.7	11.3	11.4	11.3	12.5
Infant Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births) ..	19.4	7.0	2.6	15.8	14.0	29.2	18.3	26.3	29.6	27.3	16.4	14.1	32.3	41.4	13.4	23.0	42.0	21.0	50.0
Infant Mortality Rate E. & W.	18.1	18.0	18.3	19.0	19.0	19.9	21.1	21.7	21.4	21.8	22.2	22.5	23.1	23.8	24.9	25.4	26.8	27.6	29.6
No. of Notified Cases of:—Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	2	4	4	8	3	1	1	5	4	5	16	23	8	28	6	19	38	59	27
Measles ..	30	9	81	83	154	50	335	24	204	97	110	53	348	10	468	8	326	47	126
Whooping Cough	—	3	2	—	6	6	8	—	27	16	2	3	103	16	6	23	74	46	201

Age — Incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases, 1969

AGE- GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Diph- theria		Measles (exclud- ing Rubella)		Whoop- ing Cough		Tetanus		Dys- entery		Typhoid Fever		Para- Typhoid Fever		Food Poison- ing		Polio- myelitis		Res- piratory Tuber- culosis	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 year ..	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 years ..	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 years ..	—	1	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 years ..	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-9 years ..	—	1	—	—	5	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-14 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-24 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
25 and over ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	3	—	—	1	—
TOTALS ..	—	2	—	—	8	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	3	—	—	1	—

Infectious Diseases Notifications, 1969, showing Months of Occurrence
(1968 Figures in Brackets)

MONTH	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Measles (exclud- ing Rubella)	Whoop- ing Cough	Tetanus	Dysen- tery	Food Poison- ing	Typhoid Fever	Para- Typhoid Fever	Infective Jaundice	Poliomyelitis	
											Para- lytic	Non- Paralytic
January ..	— (—)	— (—)	2 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (2)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
February ..	— (1)	— (—)	12 (—)	— (3)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
March ..	1 (—)	— (—)	5 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
April ..	1 (—)	— (—)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
May ..	— (—)	— (—)	4 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
June ..	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
July ..	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
August ..	— (—)	— (—)	— (4)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	8 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
September ..	— (—)	— (—)	— (2)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
October ..	— (—)	— (—)	5 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	2 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)
November ..	— (—)	— (—)	— (2)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
December ..	— (2)	— (—)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (2)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
TOTALS ..	2 (4)	— (—)	30 (9)	— (3)	— (—)	— (5)	10 (1)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)

Diphtheria Immunisation

During 1969 facilities were available for the Diphtheria Immunisation of children at schools, welfare centres and by private practitioners. No cases of Diphtheria occurred in the Stafford Rural District in 1969, and during the year 228 children received protection by primary immunisation, while 323 were given reinforcing injections. In the period 1916-25 the annual average of Diphtheria notifications in England and Wales was 51,573 with an average of 4,214 deaths per year.

The Staffordshire County Council has introduced the Triple Antigen, giving protection against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, and Tetanus, and thus reducing the number of injections to which children are subjected. 250 children were immunised against Tetanus in 1969 and 337 had reinforcing injections.

Vaccination against Smallpox

1969 figures for primary vaccination in the Rural Area were as follows:—

	Under 1	1-4	5-15	Total
Vaccination ..	3 (133)	130 (43)	9 (—)	142 (176)

Re-vaccinations – 26 (39) children between 5 and 15 were re-vaccinated. (1968 figures in brackets).

It is recommended that primary vaccination should be done after a child has reached its first birthday.

Vaccination against Whooping Cough

During 1969, 171 children in Stafford Rural District were vaccinated against Whooping Cough.

In addition, 129 reinforcing injections were given.

In the Stafford Rural District in 1969 no deaths from Whooping Cough were recorded.

Tuberculosis

The following extract from the Register was taken at the end of December, 1969 (1968 figures in brackets).

1969	Cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis			Cases of Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis			Total of Respiratory and Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
End of December, 1969 ..	16 (17)	12 (11)	28 (28)	3 (3)	3 (4)	6 (7)	34 (35)

One death from Respiratory Tuberculosis occurred in the Stafford Rural District in 1969. 1,092 persons (841 males, 251 females) died from Respiratory Tuberculosis in England and Wales in 1969.

1 case (M.) Respiratory Tuberculosis and 1 case (F.) Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis were notified in 1969 in Stafford R.D.

Poliomyelitis

No cases of Poliomyelitis were notified in the Stafford Rural District in 1969 and facilities for protection by vaccination were available during the year. 235 persons had their third dose of Sabin Oral Vaccine and 419 had a "boosting" dose of the oral vaccine.

"Immunisation against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough, and Poliomyelitis is now part of the routine care of the young child's health. It is no longer the subject of spectacular campaigns with mass immunisation clinics. In consequence there is a tendency for the acceptance rates to drift almost imperceptibly downwards. It is vital that this should be prevented and that parents, family doctors and public health staffs should have a clearly understood programme and follow it in the interest of every child."

Measles Vaccination

During 1968 vaccination against Measles was introduced. This involves one injection after the child has reached one year of age.

National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951

No action was taken under the provisions of these Acts during 1969.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Newport Road,
Stafford.

June, 1970.

**To the Chairman and Members of
the Stafford Rural District Council:**

I have pleasure in presenting to you my report on public health department work during 1969. Our duties have, with the minimum of staff, continued to comprise the wider field of environmental health duties including all improvement grant work and costings, management of refuse collection and disposal, licensing and control of petroleum stores and meat inspection of an exacting nature. As in previous years, extensive work was done and has to be done outside normal office hours.

The Housing Act, 1969, became law on 25th August, 1969, with the main intent that more should be done year by year to improve or repair houses and to get rid of the unfit ones. The Act did not provide for the hoped-for power to **enforce** improvements. However, the policy of coercion is being continued and a programme is proceeding parish by parish of further direct approach to all owners of the already-recorded repairable dwellings needing modernisation. Work achieved in the past is such that the time is not far distant when the only action left to gain compliance for the remaining dwellings will be some sort of compulsion.

A refuse collection service is given at approximately one and a half week intervals to 8,000 properties spread over the vast area of 80,000 acres. The service is much hampered by the not infrequent men's absences and the impossibility of getting replacement labour immediately.

I express my sincere appreciation of the support and work of the staff generally and to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support and co-operation.

G. M. LAWTON,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORATE — SUMMARY OF VISITS

Inspection of Dwelling Houses 1,600

These Inspections were for the following purposes:—

(a)	Slum Clearance	..	..	..	176
(b)	Inspection of Houses for repairs and for Improvement Grants	..	..	..	1,203
(c)	Inspections of Caravans and Sites	..	..		157
(d)	Overcrowding and Housing Applications	..			45
(e)	Verminous and Dirty Dwellings	..	..		19
					<hr/>
					1,600

Inspection of Premises for and *re* Nuisances 42

Drainage Inspections 226

Visits *re* Food Supply:

Meat	..	..	..	..	..	..	401
Poultry	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Ice Cream	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Other Foods	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Cafes	..	..	..	..	..	..	5

Dairies 3

Infectious Diseases 52

Visits *re* Water Supply 15

Refuse Tips – Supervision 251

Refuse Collection 136

Factories (including Bakehouses) 18

Slaughterhouses (other than Meat Inspection) 49

Offensive Trades Premises 294

Petroleum Stores 45

Keeping of Animals 11

Shops and Offices 34

Accumulation of Refuse 19

Smoke Nuisances 9

Agriculture (Safety, Health & Welfare) Act, 1956 21

Miscellaneous Visits 146

5,037

NOTICES SERVED DURING YEAR:

Informal Notices under Housing and Public Health Acts ..	32
Statutory Notices served under Public Health Act, 1936 ..	1

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED AND DEALT WITH
DURING THE YEAR:

Total number received	65
As to Repairs to Dwellings	7
Others	58

WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE

The table following gives parish information, requested by Ministry Circular 1/69, of water supplies and as to sewerage and other such facilities.

PARISH	Total Dwell-ings	Dwellings on: Mains Bore Well Water hole etc.			Sewer	Septic Tank etc.	†With W.C.	†Bath-room
ADBASTON ..	207	195	9	3	66	141	182 (25)	185 (22)
BERKSWICH ..	653	653	—	—	618	35	646 (7)	628 (25)
BRADLEY ..	144	131	4	9	74	70	128 (16)	126 (18)
BROCTON ..	344	333	5	6	309	35	340 (4)	334 (10)
CAS CHURCH ..	295	293	—	2	239	56	279 (16)	275 (20)
CH. EATON ..	220	211	2	7	124	96	182 (38)	188 (32)
COLWICH ..	1,098	1,089	4	5	949	149	1,050 (48)	1,028 (70)
CRESWELL ..	396	396	—	—	383	13	395 (1)	394 (2)
ELLENHALL ..	47	44	—	3	—	47	39 (8)	39 (8)
FORTON..	98	86	3	9	30	68	78 (20)	80 (18)
FRADSWELL ..	55	45	3	7	10	45	38 (17)	39 (16)
GAYTON ..	63	58	—	5	—	63	47 (16)	46 (17)
GNOSALL ..	1,098	1,088	2	8	753	345	1,027 (71)	998 (100)
HAUGHTON ..	294	275	2	17	150	144	261 (33)	264 (30)
H. OFFLEY ..	298	294	2	2	198	100	271 (27)	260 (38)
HOPTON..	366	366	—	—	235	131	354 (12)	354 (12)
INGESTRE ..	48	48	—	—	—	48	48 (—)	46 (2)
MARSTON ..	48	43	2	3	—	48	35 (13)	41 (7)
NORBURY ..	90	84	6	—	28	62	78 (12)	77 (13)
RANTON ..	82	77	—	5	3	79	69 (13)	73 (9)
SALT ..	151	140	—	11	56	95	122 (29)	124 (27)
SEIGHFORD ..	832	817	2	13	590	242	802 (30)	802 (30)
STOWE ..	386	376	3	7	222	164	334 (52)	334 (52)
TIXALL ..	58	55	1	2	—	58	54 (4)	51 (7)
WESTON..	207	201	—	6	171	36	184 (23)	177 (30)
WHITGREAVE ..	54	54	—	—	—	54	41 (13)	45 (9)
TOTALS ..	7,632	7,452	50	130	5,208	2,424	7,084(548)	7,008 (624)

† Figures in parentheses denote number of dwellings lacking W.C. and bathroom.

The Stafford Corporation Water Undertaking is responsible for the water supply throughout the Rural District. The public main supplies are solely from boreholes at Gnosall (The Hollies), and wells and boreholes at Milford. Both these supplies are chlorinated.

Only a negligible number of dwellings are served by stand pipes and these are subject to demolition orders.

During the year a Sewerage Scheme for Seighford, prepared by the Engineer's Department, was completed.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The collection of house refuse was carried out by direct labour from the whole of the Council's district. Five (including one kept in reserve) modern type low-loading Shelvoke and Drewry diesel refuse collection vehicles were employed on this work, two being of 25 cu. yd. body purchased in 1964 and 1962, two of 35 cu. yd. body purchased in 1968 and 1967, and one of 50 cu. yd. purchased in 1969.

Some 7,800 premises received the service at approximately one-and-a-half week intervals. It is contended that the provision of a satisfactory and regular refuse collection service to a district so vast as this – about 30 miles across – is no mean achievement. About 6,000 tons of refuse were collected during the year. An average of sixteen men were engaged in this work in addition to the foreman.

All refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping with the aid of a mechanical shovel at the council-owned disused railway cutting at Hopton, near Stafford, at which we received and dealt with about 25 loads of untreated refuse per month from Stafford Borough. Due to the decreased value of salvage, none was collected separately.

Costs.—A statement as to the cost of refuse collection and disposal during the financial year ended 31st March, 1970, is given below:—

Refuse Collection—	£	£
Labour		15,824
Vehicles:		
Repairs and Maintenance	1,534	
Tax and Insurance	1,533	
Fuel and Oil	1,529	
Debt Redemption and Interest on four vehicles	2,543	
	—————	7,139
Equipment, etc.		251
Administration		891
		—————
		24,105
<i>Less Recoveries from special collections, etc.</i>		305
		—————
		£23,800
		=====

Refuse Disposal—	£	£
Labour, etc.		645
Tractor:		
Repairs and Maintenance	956	
Tax and Insurance	41	
Fuel and Oil	70	
	<hr/>	1,067
Tip: Debt Redemption and Interest		324
Other Expenses		167
		<hr/>
		2,203
Less Income from Use of Tip		500
		<hr/>
		<u>£1,703</u>

HOUSING

Condition, etc., of Dwellings:—

Total number of Houses in Rural District	7,632
Fit Houses	6,731
Unfit but Repairable Houses	850
Houses requiring Demolition	51*
Houses erected before 1950	3,439
Houses erected after 1950	4,193
Houses privately let	1,995
Houses owner-occupied	4,720
Council Houses	917

* Slum Clearance Action has already been taken.

New Houses erected or provided during 1969:—

(a) by Local Authority (8 at Salt, 3 at Woodseaves, 8 at Gayton)	19
(b) by Private Enterprise	296

HOUSING — REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENT

Improvement Grants

During the year 16 Discretionary Grants and 21 Standard Grants were approved and many other applications considered and advised upon. The table following shows the number and types of

dwellings benefiting from the Council's improvement grants at 31st May, 1970:—

	No. of Grants approved	Total Value of Grants
Discretionary Grants:		
Farm Cottages let	192	£145,300
Other dwellings let	134	
Owner-occupiers	188	
Standard Grants:		
Farm Cottages let	34	£36,767
Other dwellings let	75	approx., i.e.
Owner-occupiers	140	max. payable
Totals	763	£182,067

The Housing Acts, 1964 and 1969, allow local authorities to increase the maximum standard grants to specified limits with respect to provision of bathrooms and W.C.'s in certain circumstances. In 62 of the above cases the maximum was so increased.

HOUSING — SLUM CLEARANCE

A list of the 510 dwellings previously dealt with was contained in previous Annual Reports. Sixteen further dwellings were dealt with in 1969 as follows:—

<i>Ref. No.</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>
517/518	11 and 13 Main Road, Milford	Demolition Orders
519	Chapel View, Weston	Demolition Order
520	Beech Cottage, Hollies, Gnosall	Demolition Order
521	Old Post Office, Salt	Undertaking to repair
522	Holmleigh, Enson	Closing Order
523	Caravan, Little Haywood	Demolition Order
524	Holly Tree Cottage, Bradley	Demolition Order
525	4 The Barracks, Lt. Bridgeford	Closing Order
526	Old Stores, Moreton	Demolition Order
527	Stone Cottage, The Outwoods	Demolition Order
528	End Cottage, Whitgreave	Closing Order
529	Toadsnest, Coton Clanford	Undertaking to repair
530	Rose Cottage, Weston	Demolition Order
531	Det. Cottage, Seighford Green	Demolition Order
532	Plardiwick Cottage, Gnosall	Undertaking to repair

Certificates of Disrepair and Qualification Certificates

During 1969 there were no applications for Certificates of Disrepair. Since the Rent Act, 1957, only fourteen applications have been made for Certificates of Disrepair. In six of these cases it was ultimately necessary to serve Certificates. No Qualification Certificates were issued under the Housing Act, 1969.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

There are 49 factories – all defined as “Mechanical Factories” – in the area. Fourteen of these were inspected during the year, no defects of any consequence were found, and only six of the factories are of any size.

No outworkers were employed in the district of the Council during the year.

PETROLEUM ACTS

Ninety-three licences to store petroleum spirit were issued for the period ended 31st December, 1969. A number of new installations were carried out during the year, the majority of which were to increase the storage capacity of existing installations. All such installations were inspected at each stage of construction and all tanks and pipe lines were tested prior to licensing of the installations in order to secure compliance with the Petroleum Acts and in accordance with the Home Office Codes of Practice.

In addition to the above, a number of routine inspections were carried out and a proportion of the retail filling stations were inspected in detail in conjunction with the Fire Prevention Department of the County Fire Brigade.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council provided a free service of rat disinfestation to residential property. The treatment of farms and other properties in the area is also carried out by the Council’s rodent operative, the cost being re-charged to the occupiers.

Infestations which were treated by the department during 1969 were:—

Farms	.. .. .	16
R.D.C. Refuse Tips and Sewage Works	..	44
All other properties	.. .. .	290

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Premises registered at 1969 were:—

	No. Registered	No. Persons Employed
Offices	9	20
Shops	23	62
Catering Establishments and Canteens..	15	101
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses ..	4	9
	51	192 (86 Males; 106 Females)

The above figures relate to registerable premises only, there being a total of some 180 shops in the district.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, planning permission and site licences have been granted for twenty-seven sites, varying from sites of one caravan to one site for twenty-four caravans (all are subject to conditions requiring such sanitary facilities as can be enforced by present legislation).

A total of 126 caravans were authorised on these sites in the rural area under the Act (the majority of these being in the Hopton area).

FOOD INSPECTION

Particulars of food inspected during the year:

Meat – Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected ..	300	1,366	6,792	631	82
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:					
Whole carcases condemned ..	8	24	50	24	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	143	642	29	127	2
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	50.3	48.7	1.2	23.9	8.5
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcases condemned ..	—	1	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	7	—	—	1
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tubercu- losis	—	0.6	—	—	1.2
Cysticercosis:					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	1	—	—	—

Many of the above cattle were killed and examined at a Casualty Slaughterhouse in the area, which is the reason for the high percentage of meat condemned. Much of the work of meat inspection was perforce carried out outside normal office hours.

Weight of Meat condemned due to:

(a) Tuberculosis 576 lbs.

(b) Other Diseases or conditions .. 31,939 lbs.

Total Weight of Meat Condemned .. 32,515 lbs.

Two private slaughterhouses and one knacker's yard were licensed by the Council during the year. Nine men were licensed to stun and slaughter animals under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.

Poultry Inspection

There are three poultry processing establishments in the Rural District where processing was carried out throughout the year, plus a fourth processing approximately 2,500 turkeys at the Christmas period only. The through-put for the year at the above establishments was approximately 35,000 birds consisting of turkeys, ducks, hens and capons.

Inspection was carried out mainly on a “spotter” system resulting in a rejection rate of approximately 5 %, amounting to some 4,500 lbs. of food.

Thirty-nine visits were carried out to these establishments by Public Health Inspectors throughout the year in order to ascertain the standard of hygiene in the processing premises, which has improved progressively since inspection was commenced.

In addition to the above, it is estimated that some 150 farms and smallholdings process and retail poultry to a small extent, mainly during the Christmas period. These are inspected as and when possible subject to knowledge of their existence, but in the main this is carried out unknown to the department and under somewhat doubtful conditions.

Food Preparing Premises and Food Shops

Food premises of the various types in the area were as under:—

Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	10
Catering Establishments	..	..	..	..	..	5
Fruit and Vegetables	..	..	..	..	..	4
Sweets and Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	8
General Provisions	..	..	..	..	..	57
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	..	48
						<hr/>
						132
						<hr/>

Routine inspections of food premises for the specific purpose of ensuring compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960, were carried out. Byelaws as to handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air, are in operation in the area of the Council.

There were four premises in the area manufacturing prepared meats. They – together with 71 shops from which ice cream is sold – are registered by the Council in conformity with the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. There were eight distributors of milk, with dairies in the Rural District, registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

Food Poisoning

Ten cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

A. THOMSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

G. M. LAWTON,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

